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Seventieth session

Bangkok, 23 May 2014 (Phase II)

Item 3(b) of the provisional agenda*

**Review of issues pertinent to the subsidiary structure
of the Commission, including the work of the regional
institutions: trade and investment**

Report of the Governing Council of the Centre for Sustainable Agricultural Mechanization on its ninth session

Summary

The Governing Council of the Centre for Sustainable Agricultural Mechanization (CSAM) reviewed reports of the Centre covering its work in 2013 and its administrative and financial status. It endorsed the five strategic functions of the Centre identified in 2013 as a result of the strategic repositioning process, the proposed work plan for 2014 and the report of the Technical Committee of CSAM, specifically the recommendations of the Technical Committee at its ninth session on measures to enhance the effectiveness of the Technical Committee. It also adopted the terms of reference of the Asia-Pacific Network for the Testing of Agricultural Machinery (ANTAM) and further reviewed and adopted the annual report of CSAM to the Commission on its seventieth session.

The Commission may wish to review the report of the Governing Council and provide the secretariat with guidance for the future work of the Centre.

Contents

	<i>Page</i>
I. Matters calling for action by the Commission or brought to its attention	2
II. Summary of proceedings	2
A. Report on the 2013 activities of the Centre for Sustainable Agricultural Mechanization and its financial status as of 30 September 2013	2
B. Report of the Technical Committee on its ninth session	3
C. Review and adoption of the terms of reference of the Asia-Pacific Network for the Testing of Agricultural Machinery	4
D. Discussion of the proposed work plan for 2014 and resource mobilization	4
E. Review of the draft annual report of CSAM to the Commission at its seventieth session	4

F.	Agreement on the date and venue of the tenth session of the Governing Council	4
G.	Other matters	4
H.	Adoption of the report	5
III.	Organization of the session	5
A.	Opening, duration and organization	5
B.	Attendance	5
C.	Election of officers	5
D.	Adoption of the agenda	5
Annexes		
I.	List of documents	6
II.	Financial statement of the Centre for Sustainable Agricultural Mechanization for the year ended 31 December 2013	7
III.	Financial statement of the Centre for Sustainable Agricultural Mechanization for the year ended 31 December 2013, by project components	8
IV.	Cash contributions to the Centre for Sustainable Agricultural Mechanization for institutional support accounts received for the year ended 31 December 2013	9

I. Matters calling for action by the Commission or brought to its attention

Recommendation

1. The Governing Council calls for the active participation in and support of member States and stakeholders to the Asia-Pacific Network for the Testing of Agricultural Machinery (ANTAM), launched at the Regional Policymakers' Round Table on the Asian and Pacific Network for Testing of Agricultural Machinery, held in Bangkok on 18 November 2013.

II. Summary of proceedings

A. Report on the 2013 activities of the Centre for Sustainable Agricultural Mechanization and its financial status as of 30 September 2013

(Agenda item 4)

2. The Governing Council thanked the host Government, China, for its continued support to the operation of the Centre for Sustainable Agricultural Mechanization (CSAM), and welcomed the change of the focal point of CSAM in the Government to the Ministry of Agriculture. It also expressed deep appreciation to the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives of Thailand for its valuable in-kind contribution and assistance in organizing the exhibition on ANTAM.

3. The Governing Council reviewed the financial status of CSAM¹ and was informed that, for the year, as of 30 September 2013, the following countries had made voluntary financial contributions totalling \$45,000 to CSAM: Bangladesh; India; Philippines; Republic of Korea; and Thailand.

4. The Governing Council also was informed that, since its eighth session, the following activities had been conducted:

(a) Strategic repositioning of the Centre with the identification of five functional roles: (i) a regional forum for regular policy dialogues; (ii) a data and information hub; (iii) a reference point for standards and protocols; (iv) a centre for capacity-building; and (v) a platform to facilitate intraregional agribusiness development and trade;

(b) Launch of ANTAM;

(c) Regional forum on sustainable agricultural mechanization in Asia and the Pacific;

(d) Outcome of pillar I of the sustainable agricultural mechanization strategy (SAMS);

(e) Project design for funding for 2014-2016.

5. The Governing Council commended the work of CSAM in the preceding year and approved the report on the work of CSAM for 2013. It endorsed the five strategic functions of the Centre identified in 2013 as a result of the strategic repositioning process and advised the Centre to develop and implement programmes and projects to fulfil those functions.

6. The Governing Council agreed that there was a need to enhance the effectiveness of the Technical Committee of CSAM by formalizing the Technical Committee's membership and representation, and endorsed the recommendation that the members of the Technical Committee of CSAM should serve a term of three years.

7. On substantive projects of the Centre, the Governing Council agreed that CSAM should become a lead organization to promote sustainable agricultural mechanization in Asia and the Pacific and beyond. The Centre could play a vital role in supporting member countries in mechanizing their agricultural sector by developing more service-oriented programmes and promoting small-scale machinery in the light of their national conditions. It also should enhance collaboration with other relevant organizations in project implementation. The Governing Council agreed that ANTAM was an important initiative of the Centre to fulfil its mandate, and that CSAM should better coordinate with member countries to advocate for participation and leverage resources. Representatives of member countries, in turn, should communicate with relevant authorities of their respective countries on the latest outcomes of ANTAM.

B. Report of the Technical Committee on its ninth session (Agenda item 5)

8. The ninth session of the Technical Committee of CSAM was held in Bhopal, India, on 17 and 18 October 2013. The Governing Council endorsed the report of the Technical Committee.

¹ See annex II.

C. Review and adoption of the terms of reference of the Asia-Pacific Network for the Testing of Agricultural Machinery
(Agenda item 6)

9. The Governing Council praised CSAM for its preparatory work on the establishment of the Asia-Pacific Network for the Testing of Agricultural Machinery (ANTAM) and adopted the terms of reference of ANTAM. It called on the members of the Commission to actively participate in ANTAM activities, and pledged its support to the work of ANTAM.

D. Discussion of the proposed work plan for 2014 and resource mobilization
(Agenda item 7)

10. The Governing Council approved the work plan for 2014. It agreed that CSAM should develop branding activities, such as the Regional Forum on Sustainable Agricultural Mechanization, to enhance dialogues and policy exchange among member countries, and encouraged the Centre to engage with potential partners to regularize the organization of the Forum. The participation of the private sector in sustainable agricultural mechanization was crucial for the implementation of project activities, as well as for resource (technical and financial) mobilization. In the light of the large market potential of agricultural machinery in the Asia-Pacific region, CSAM should work with member countries to reach out to the private sector in order to promote the benefits of its activities and forge an effective partnership. Given the existing financial situation and the renewed mandate of the Centre, enhanced communication among CSAM and the members and associate members of the Commission on the work of the Centre was important not only to update relevant authorities but also for the purpose of advocacy with the hope of obtaining additional financial support. In that regard, it was imperative for CSAM to issue policy briefs and reports on the status of regional agricultural mechanization to disseminate information and provide policy recommendations for member countries.

E. Review of the draft annual report of CSAM to the Commission at its seventieth session
(Agenda item 8)

11. The Governing Council approved the draft annual report of CSAM for submission to the Commission at its seventieth session.

F. Agreement on the date and venue of the tenth session of the Governing Council
(Agenda item 9)

12. The Governing Council agreed in principle that its tenth session should be held in Bangkok in December 2014, subject to consultations with member States.

G. Other matters
(Agenda item 10)

13. No other matters were discussed.

H. Adoption of the report
(Agenda item 11)

14. The Governing Council adopted the present report on 19 November 2013.

III. Organization of the session

A. Opening, duration and organization

15. The ninth session of the Governing Council of CSAM was held in Bangkok on 19 November 2013.

16. The Deputy Executive Secretary of ESCAP addressed the Governing Council at the opening of the session.

17. Ms. Siriporn Thanaratchataphoom, Senior Policy and Plan Analyst, Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives of Thailand, delivered welcome remarks on behalf of the Government of Thailand.

B. Attendance

18. The session was attended by representatives of the nine members of the Governing Council: Bangladesh; Cambodia; China; India; Indonesia; Pakistan; Sri Lanka; Thailand; and Viet Nam.

C. Election of officers

19. The Governing Council elected the following officers:

Chair: Mr. Wais **Kabir** (Bangladesh)

Vice-Chair: Mr. Kanchan K. **Singh** (India)

D. Adoption of the agenda

20. The Governing Council adopted the following agenda:

1. Opening of the session.
2. Election of officers.
3. Adoption of the agenda.
4. Report on the 2013 activities of CSAM and its financial status as of 30 September 2013.
5. Report of the Technical Committee of CSAM on its ninth session.
6. Review and adoption of the terms of reference of the Asia-Pacific Network for the Testing Agricultural Machinery.
7. Discussion of the proposed work plan for 2014 and resource mobilization.
8. Review of the draft annual report of CSAM to the Commission at its seventieth session.
9. Agreement on the date and venue of the tenth session of the Governing Council.
10. Other matters.
11. Adoption of the report.

Annex I**List of documents**

Symbol	Title	Agenda item
N/A	Ninth Governing Council agenda and annotated agenda	3
N/A	Ninth Governing Council programme	3
N/A	Ninth Governing Council — List of participants	2
N/A	Report of the ninth session of the Technical Committee of CASM	5
N/A	Draft terms of reference of the Asia-Pacific Network for the Testing of Agricultural Machinery	6
N/A	Work report for 2012 and work plan for 2013	4, 7

Annex II

**Financial statement of the Centre for Sustainable Agricultural
Mechanization for the year ended 31 December 2013**
(United States dollars)

	2013	2012
<i>Income</i>		
Contributions	174 541	133 121
Interest income	10 724	20 349
Total income	185 265	153 470
<i>Less: Expenditure</i>	505 366	485 073
Net income over expenditure	(320 101)	(331 603)
Fund balance as at 1 January 2013	2 203 173	2 616 726
<i>Less: Refunds to donors</i>	-	(81 950)
Fund balance as at 31 December 2013	1 883 072	2 203 173

Annex III

**Financial statement of the Centre for Sustainable Agricultural
Mechanization for the year ended 31 December 2013,
by project component**
(United States dollars)

	Joint Contributions - Capacity Development Project	Government of China – Capacity Development Project	Regional Forum on Sustainable Agricultural Mechanization in Asia and the Pacific	United Nations regular programme for technical cooperation (Section 23)	Total
<i>Income</i>					
Contributions	93 000 ^a	20 000 ^a	40 000 ^b	21 541	174 541
Interest Income	1 949	8 775	-	-	10 724
Total income	94 949	28 775	40 000	21 541	185 265
<i>Less: Expenditure</i>	76 831	382 792	24 202	21 541	505 366
Net income over expenditures	18 118	(354 017)	15 798	-	(320 101)
Fund balance as at 1 January 2013	376 527	1 826 646	-	-	2 203 173
<i>Less: Refunds to donors</i>	-	-	-	-	-
Fund Balance as at 31 December 2013	394 645	1 472 629	15 798	-	1 883 072

^a Please refer to annex IV for details of the contributions.

^b Contribution transferred from China Global account: G015-CPR_GLBN.

Annex IV

**Cash contributions to the Centre for Sustainable Agricultural
Mechanization for institutional support accounts received for
the year ended 31 December 2013**
(United States dollars)

Country/Area	Year ended 31 December 2013	Year ended 31 December 2012
Bangladesh	3 000	3 000
China	20 000	20 000
Fiji	10 000	5 000
India	15 000	15 000
Indonesia	30 000	29 982
Mongolia	-	2 000
Philippines	2 000	-
Republic of Korea	10 000	10 000
Sri Lanka	5 000	5 000
Thailand	15 000	15 000
Viet Nam	3 000	3 000
Total	113 000	107 982